

REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT

An optical pickup apparatus includes first and second light sources; an objective lens; a spherical aberration correcting optical unit; and a chromatic aberration correcting optical element which includes a diffractive surface on at least one optical surface of the chromatic aberration correcting optical element such that a diffractive structure which is constructed by a plurality of ring-shaped zones separated by fine steps is formed on the diffractive surface, wherein the depth of steps along an optical axis is designed so that n_2 , which is a diffraction order of a diffracted ray having a largest diffraction efficiency among diffracted rays caused when the second light flux enters into the diffractive structure, is a lower order than n_1 , which is a diffraction order of a diffracted ray having a largest diffraction efficiency among diffracted light rays caused when the second first light flux enters into the diffractive structure.